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20 March 1951

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MEMORANDUM FOR: COORDINATING GROUP

SUBJECT: Proposed Abolition of the Standing
Committee of the IAC

1. The Standing Committee of the IAC was established by DCID 1/1 in March 1948 "to assist the IAC in the performance of its functions." A need existed then and still continues for extensive coordination and contact among the IAC agencies. The means for accomplishing this, however, have developed and improved in three years and it is now felt that a formal Standing Committee is no longer required.

2. Various offices of CIA have their own dealings with other agencies and a number of regular and ad hoc committees have been set up for specialized problems. For example, National Estimates, Scientific Intelligence and the Watch Committee functions are handled by direct means without reference to the Standing Committee.

3. Other matters which might originally have been handled formally in a meeting of the Standing Committee are now usually taken up on an individual basis with the agency representatives. On occasion matters may arise which one of the agencies wishes to discuss with some or all of the others collectively. In such cases an ad hoc meeting can easily be called of the appropriate people from each agency.

4. It is recommended that the Standing Committee of the IAC be abolished by the deletion of paragraphs 5, 6 and 7 of DCID 1/1.

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